Promotion of DAC Industry through Incubation

Final Meeting
Dec 14-15, 2009, ESCWA, Beirut

Nicolas Rouhana
Berytech
Berytech ‘trilogy’… an eco-system to breed entrepreneurs
ESCWA DAC Program

Encourage holders of innovative projects in DAC to launch themselves in a start-up creation

Benefit from a grant to develop the startup in the **incubator** of Berytech
Launching event: June 26, 08

➤ Importance and Opportunities of the DAC Industry
➤ How to apply to the DAC Competition
➤ Value of Incubation process through Berytech
Stage I

- Deadline July 31, 08
- Application form (En/Ar) and transparent process
- eAds, web banners

- 1st screening: Berytech – ESCWA Committee
  - Screened about 15 applications
  - Short-listed 5 applications for stage II
Stage II

- Meeting the short listed candidates
- Committee: ESCWA – Berytech – ICT professionals - Financiers
- Selecting the winning project
Announced winner Oct 08: Alf-Mile

- Educational interactive game set in 3D virtual reality

- “Players travel around a virtual Arab World learning about local customs, getting a closer look at the culture of various Arab countries, discovering large and lesser-known historical and geographical sites while meeting and interacting with other players online. The game allows players to customize their virtual environment and will help improve their design, programming and 3D gaming skills”

- The project holder name is Hassan Ayoub, and has 4 team members (original application form)
Alf-Mile: Conducive environment

Hassle-free managed office space

24/7 power – UPS – Internet/Tel/fax – Security – maintenance – Reception, secretarial & mail service – Business center – Meeting rooms

Technical Assistance

Networking (meeting with peers and develop partnership)

Visibility

Access to Finance – Mentoring – Followup
Alf-Mile: Visibility

- Booth in Berytech Pavilion in Termium Dec 08
- Winner PCA Golden Chip Awards
Alf-Mile: Programs

- Enrolled in the BizSpark program
- Summer School for Young Entrepreneurs
Af-Mile: Where we stand

- Core engine still in development phase
- Scenario & story board developed
- Feasibility study completed to get financing (Kafalat, seed-funding)
DAC: From lessons learnt…

- More time needed for awareness to source more DAC projects
- Challenge of “Virtual Incubation” dealing with “tech wizards”
- Importance of seed financing, especially for game development
to questions…